

TRANSFORMERS

WEEK 1 - GIDEON

WEEK 2 - ESTHER

WEEK 3 - ELIJAH

WEEK 4 - WOMAN AT THE WELL

WEEK 5 - JOCHEBED

This 5 week series is all about being transformers! Are we simply living in the world or are we changing it? Are we transforming our situations and the people around us or are we sinking into our own comforts?

Week 1 looks at the story of **Gideon**. Through this story we learn that God wants all the glory for Himself and that we need to humble ourselves before Him every time and do things in His strength. Only in this way can we be transformers.

Week 2 looks at an ordinary Jewish girl who becomes queen. God uses **Esther** to save an entire nation. Her courage and boldness transforms a situation that desperately needed saving. We too have been called for a time such as this and we need to live knowing that.

Week 3 looks at **Elijah**. Elijah calls down fire from heaven and stands up for his God. Are we, like Elijah, willing to risk everything to stand up for what we believe in?

Week 4 looks at the **woman at the well**. This ordinary encounter transformed an entire city. Do we have the urgency God has called us to have to see the lost saved or are we living for ourselves?

Week 5 looks at **Jochebed**, the mother of Moses. We see how her brave act to save her son, led to Moses being one of the greatest transformers of all times! We need to be people who help others become transformers too.

Let's get our kids on mission and equip them to be the transformers they were called to be!

Week 1

Media Clip - Gideon

Scripture - Judges 6-7

Narrator: Our story today takes us back a couple thousand years ago...

Meet Gideon! (Gideon strikes a warrior pose) Gideon was the leader of the Israelite army. Now at the beginning of our story, the Israelites were not in a good place.

They were constantly under the attack of the Midianites. It was so rough that they would hide out in caves and mountains!

One day an angel of the Lord came to Gideon and told him that God was with him.

Gideon's response went something like this:

Gideon: Um... I don't mean to sound rude here, but have you seen our situation??

Things are BAD!! You rescue us out of Egypt, bring us to the Promised Land and now you go and hand us over to the Midianites? I'm starting to lose hope here!

Narrator: But the Lord told Gideon to be strong and that he would save them from the Midianites once and for all. Gideon was doubtful as his family was the weakest tribe in all of Israel and he wasn't the biggest guy in the neighbourhood either!

All in all, Gideon had 32000 soldiers! But God told him that he would need to cut that number down before fighting the Midianites. God didn't want Gideon to think he could win the battle in his own strength, so he told Gideon to send home any soldiers who were fearful. After he did that, Gideon was left with 10000 men. And as you can imagine, he looked slightly concerned.

Then, just when he thought it couldn't get worse, God told him he still had too many soldiers... (Gideon looks even more shocked)! He told Gideon to take the soldiers he had left down to the river.

Gideon: Right men, let's head down to the river. I want all of you to drink water from the river.

Narrator: God told Gideon to divide the group between those who stood and brought the water up to their mouths using their hands and those who got down on their knees to drink water. Only 300 men used their hands to bring water to their mouths and these were the men God told Gideon he could take into battle with him.

Gideon's army went from 32 000 to 300. You can only imagine what Gideon must have been thinking. But God did this because he wanted to make sure the Israelites knew that the battle could only be won in God's strength and not their own. Gideon's army would be facing the Midianites 450 to 1! That's crazy! There is no way they could do that in their own strength. Also, there was nothing special about the 300 men who eventually made the cut, it was ALL God!

The 300 men followed Gideon down to the camp and followed his instructions as to when they would attack. When it was time, they got into position. At the sound of the trumpets, something very unexpected happened; the Midianites ran away with fear and instead of fighting the Israelites, they turned on each other and attacked one another with their swords.

Elijah was not always the most faithful and brave judge, but he knew this was something he had to stand up to and be obedient to God. Remember, God doesn't need us, He chooses to use us if we are willing!

Gideon transformed many people by being obedient to God. They had been freed from the Midianites and had been saved!

MC Wrap Up:

Gideon knew that the only reason that had been victorious was because of God. When the Israelites wanted to appoint him King he told them he would not rule over them but instead that Lord would rule over them. He knew that ultimately humans fail and we need a King who never will. He was humble and gave all the glory to God.

Week 2

Media Clip - Esther

Scripture - Esther 1-10

Narrator: In our story today, we're going to meet a woman who transformed an entire nation! She saved the lives of thousands of people and we're going to see how she did it. Can anyone guess her name? You got it! It's none other than... Esther!
(Round of applause)

Now before we get carried away with our heroine of the day, we need to meet some other crucial characters who also form part of this story.

First up we have, King Xerxes. He was a rich and powerful King and ruled over 127 provinces. In fact, our story begins with a 180-day party thrown by the King himself. Can you just imagine partying it up for 180 days?! You would be on a sugar high for the rest of your life! You also probably wouldn't have any teeth left! But let's not get side-tracked, back to the story! As the party came to an end, King Xerxes summoned his wife, Queen Vashti to show off her beauty, but she refused, and at that, King Xerxes had her banished from the Kingdom. Whoa! Talk about a temper! Clearly King Xerxes was not the guy to mess with. Sorry Queen Vashti!

Sometime after that, King Xerxes decided he needed a new wife - as King's do - and so he held a beauty pageant to find his new queen. Rather cheeky if you ask me! Nevertheless, after a VERY long process, Esther - our soon to be hero - was chosen as queen; an ordinary Jewish girl who loved the Lord.

Another important character I'd like you to meet is a man by the name of Haman. Haman was the King's prime minister - if you don't know what a Prime Minister is, just know that it's someone super important and someone the King trusted. And the last character I'd like to introduce you to is Mordecai. Mordecai was Esther's uncle and he worked just outside the palace gates. Now this guy Haman - the fancy Prime minister dude, had a problem with Mordecai.

Here's why: Haman had ordered for everyone to bow down to him and Mordecai refused. He's just as cheeky as the King it seems! This enraged Haman and he was not okay with it! To solve this problem, Haman then went to King Xerxes to ask permission to kill all the Jews

- just keep in mind here that Esther was a Jew, but no one knew. The King gave permission and Haman started planning his mass murder of the Jews. I suppose that's one way to do it! I personally would probably have opted for something less messy and gory, but that's just me.

When Mordecai heard about this he dressed in sackcloth and covered himself in ashes! No, this was not the latest fashion trend in ancient Israel, this was to show his complete despair and heart ache after hearing this terrible news.

Now Mordecai immediately sent word to Esther that she needed to go to the King and do something about this. Esther reminded Mordecai that anyone who goes to see the King without being invited in could be put to death without question. Mordecai knows there's no time to waste and to be fearful and he tells Esther that she needs to do this and that maybe she has been called to be Queen for a time such as this because her people need her.

With that, Esther approached the King. I'm sure she was sweating like crazy from all the nerves! He welcomed her in by holding out his sceptre and to say she was relieved would be an understatement! After that first meeting, Esther arranged a few more meetings with the King and Haman. She eventually exposed Haman and told the King that Haman was plotting to kill her people; the Jews. When King Xerxes hears this he immediately ordered for Haman to be hang! To cut a long story short, after that, Mordecai was made Prime Minister and Esther continued to be Queen.

Esther transformed an entire nation and saved her people. She was obedient and trusted God and realized that the reason for her being queen was so much greater than she had ever imagined. She never once thought that a simple beauty pageant would lead to her saving thousands of people.

MC Wrap Up:

Where has God placed us? How can we be used by Him wherever we are? How can we transform our schools, our homes, our friends? What are we doing to transform those around us? Are we obedient? Are we taking hold of the position God has placed us in or are we too busy doing our own thing that we forget there is a world out there that needs saving? Think about it.

Week 3

Media Clip - Elijah

Scripture - 1 Kings 18

Narrator: Our hero of the day is a man by the name of Elijah. Now at the start of our story, Elijah was a wanted man. King Ahab had sent word out to all the surrounding towns, that if anyone saw Elijah, they were to bring him in immediately. Now this kind of a situation would have made anyone else in Elijah's position stay far away, but when God spoke to Elijah telling him to go give Ahab a word from Him, he didn't hesitate... clearly this guy has a death wish... but let's see what happens. So as Elijah was walking along to find Ahab, he bumped into Obadiah who worked for Ahab and told Obadiah to tell Ahab that Elijah was here to see him. Obadiah had thought Elijah had lost his mind but went to tell the King as Elijah had asked. And so, King Ahab went to see Elijah...

Ahab: Elijah, all you do is cause trouble wherever you go! What do you want this time?

Elijah: Ahab, I have not made any trouble for Israel, but you have. You have completely abandoned the Lord's commands and have chosen to follow Baal instead. Tell all the people in Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel and bring the 450 prophets of Baal with you.

Narrator: Baal was a Canaanite idol that the Israelites worshipped when they turned away from God. They had chosen Baal over God for a reason I'll never know! Let's worship a statue and hope it answers our prayers... I don't think so! Ahab went to the people:

Ahab: People of Israel! Elijah has called for everyone to meet him on Mount Carmel!

Narrator: The people made their way to Mount Carmel and Elijah spoke to the people:

Elijah: How long will continue going back and forth between God and these other idols you like to worship? If the Lord is God follow Him and if you think Baal is God, then follow him. I am the only one of the Lord's prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. Here's what we're going to do to settle this once and for all. Go and get two bulls - one for us and one for Baal's prophets. Each of us will put our bulls on the alter but not set fire to it. You who worship Baal will call out to him, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers by fire; is God

Narrator: And so, they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. “Baal, answer us!” they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. They even danced around the altar they had made which only made them look absolutely ridiculous. Elijah then began to mock them:

Elijah: Shout louder! He can't hear you it seems. Maybe he is sleeping? Or maybe he is busy with something else? Maybe he's gone to the toilet?

Narrator: They continued to shout louder and dance even wilder; calling on the name of Baal. They even slashed themselves with swords and spears. They did this until the evening... but still... nothing.

Elijah: Now that you've had your chance, come here to me.

Narrator: The people came to where Elijah was and watched as he set up the altar. Elijah said to the people:

Elijah: Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the bull and on the wood.

Narrator: They did this three times! After that, Elijah prayed:

Elijah: Lord, set fire to my offering so that everyone will know that there is only one true God and that is you! Lord, answer me so that these people will see the truth and know that you are God!

Narrator: Suddenly, fire fell and burned up the sacrifice, along with the wood, the stones and the soil, even though it was soaking wet! When all the people saw this, they realized the truth and shouted, “The Lord is God!” At this Elijah made one more command:

Elijah: Get all the prophets of Baal!!! Seize them!

Narrator: At that, the Israelites seized the prophets of Baal! Elijah had remained faithful and stood up for what he believed in. Many people were changed that day because of Elijah's courage.

MC Wrap Up:

Are you willing to be used by God? Are you ready to be bold and courageous to see the lost turn to Jesus? Do you have the courage to stand up for what you believe in even if you're the only one? When we make ourselves available for God to use, He will always use us. This world is in so much trouble and it needs people like us - children of God - to make it better. We need to be the ones who stand out and stand up against the rest. Do you trust God as much as Elijah did? Do you know that God can use you in a mighty way if you'll just let Him?

Week 4

Media Clip - The Woman at the Well

Scripture - John 4

Narrator: Our story today includes a well, some water and another woman who made history! She lived in a town called Samaria which made her a Samaritan. Just to give you the low down on Samaritans, they did not get on with the Jews. They believed in different things and so they usually kept to themselves and didn't bother the other.

Now one day, Jesus - a Jew I might add - had to pass through the town of Samaria. It was really hot that day and so he stopped at a well to rest for a while. While He was there, this Samaritan woman I just told you about, came to the well to fetch water for herself.

As she came up to the well, Jesus asked her if she could give Him something to drink. The woman looked around trying to see who Jesus might have been talking to, but then realized there was no one else around and so it had to be her... she stood there shocked and in silence for a while. Jesus told her that He was talking to her.

At this point she was VERY confused! She asked Jesus if He knew she was a Samaritan. Jews never spoke to Samaritans and so this whole situation was really weird! Jesus nodded. He knew exactly who she was. The Samaritan woman was still really confused and asked why Jesus would ask her for a drink knowing she was a Samaritan?

Jesus answered her by saying that if she knew who it was that was asking for water, she would have asked Him for water! She was now totally confused! First this man has no problem talking to her and now he's speaking in riddles? She told Jesus that He had nothing to draw water from the well with and that the well was too deep to get water out without a bucket and rope.

Jesus goes on to say that everyone who drinks from that water in the well will get thirsty again, but everyone who drinks the water that he gives, will never thirst again! The woman immediately got excited and asked Jesus if she could have this water!

Jesus realized the woman didn't completely understand what He was saying and so He told the woman to go call her husband and bring him to the well.

Now the woman had reached confusion on a whole new level! She had only just met this man and now he's asking for her husband? Maybe she thought he was just really friendly! She told Jesus that she didn't have a husband. Jesus replies to her and says that He knows. He knows that she has actually had five husbands and the man she is living with is not her husband. Jesus wasn't saying all this to be ugly, He simply wanted her to realize who He was.

She was shocked! How could this man know so much about her? Then she realized... he must be a prophet! Jesus tells her that He is more than just a prophet, but He is in fact the one that has been prophesied about. He is the true God.

After hearing all this, the woman left her water, ran into the city and told everyone that the Messiah was there at the well! She didn't stop running through the streets until everyone had heard. Everyone rushed to see Him and because of the woman, many Samaritan's became believers in Jesus as their Lord and God.

MC Wrap Up:

Are we serious about seeing people saved? Do we have an urgency to see our friends come to know Jesus? If we don't, we need to get one! There isn't time to sit around and worry only about ourselves. There are plenty people around us who need saving and if we don't do it who will? Will we sit back and not do anything or will we be like the woman at the well who couldn't hold in the good news of Jesus Christ?

Week 5

Media Clip - Jochebed

Scripture - Exodus 2:1-10

Narrator: Ever heard of Jochebed? Well if you haven't, today is your lucky day. Jochebed - (yawn) for some reason that name makes me sleepy... Joche-BED... Ah! That's why! I wonder if she liked to sleep? I wonder how long I could sleep for if no one woke me up? Don't you just love a good sleep in on a Saturday morning? Or are you that person who gets up at 5am on a weekend and struggles to get up at 6am during the week? The struggle is real! But let's not get distracted here... let's see why Jochebed made it into our series of transformers!

Just to get you in the loop real quick, Jochebed was the mother of Moses! Ah-ha! Now it's making more sense, right? Great! Moses was the guy who saved the Israelites out of Egypt. He's a pretty cool guy if you ask me!

At the time when Jochebed became pregnant with Moses, there was a law that all Hebrew boys had to be killed as Pharaoh feared they would rise up against him if they became too powerful. But when Jochebed gave birth to Moses, she decided to hide him. If anyone found him, they would kill him immediately. She hid him for three months and then realized that she couldn't hide him anymore as someone was bound to find him. She made a basket out of papyrus and placed Moses inside it. She then took the basket with Moses in it and placed it in the Nile River. His sister Miriam hid nearby to see what would happen. Just imagine watching your baby brother or sister floating down a river in a basket and knowing you'll probably never see them again... that's hectic!

Later that day, Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile River to swim. She saw the basket in the reeds and asked her servants to go fetch it. When she opened it, she saw that there was a baby inside. The baby was crying and she felt sorry for him. She knew that this must have been one of the Hebrew babies.

At that moment, Miriam came out from hiding and walked towards Pharaoh's daughter. She asked her if she should go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for her? Pharaoh's daughter liked that idea and sent Miriam to fetch someone.

Miriam went back to her mother and brought her to Pharaoh's daughter. She told Moses' mother to nurse the baby until he is older. Moses' mother raised her own son without Pharaoh's daughter even knowing it. When he was a bit older, and didn't need to be nursed anymore, Moses' mother gave him back to Pharaoh's daughter and the rest is history!

MC Wrap Up:

We all know that God used Moses in a big, big way and he transformed an entire nation too, but we can often forget about the people behind the scenes. Jochebed's actions meant that Moses was not killed as he should have been, and God was able to use him in a mighty way to save His people. Moses grew up to be one of God's greatest leaders, chosen to rescue the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt. Because of Jochebed's bravery, Moses went on to be the transformer God had planned for him to be.

Sometimes we don't always see the fruit of our actions immediately, but you can be sure that God waters every seed we plant. By Jochebed saving Moses' life, an entire nation was saved. Her one act of obedience led to massive victory. We too can see this kind of victory when we lead others to Jesus so that they too can be saved - in a different way of course - but just as God had plans for Moses, He has plans for all those around us too!

How great would it be to know you were a part of someone becoming a transformer? To be part of God's story and his plans in the lives of others is a privilege and something really special!

BIG GROUP GAMES

WEEK 1 - Pictionary

WHAT YOU NEED:

- 4 sheets of big white paper.
- 4 permanent markers

- Divide your group into their different age groups or just split them up evenly. You should have about 3-4 groups.
- Select a volunteer from each team and get them up on stage.
- Each volunteer needs to have a large sheet of paper and a permanent marker.
- Give each volunteer the same thing they need to draw and see which team can guess what it is first.
- Play a couple of rounds and see which team can get the most points!
- You can rotate the person drawing to give more people a turn.

WEEK 2 - HOLD IT!

Get your kids to partner up. Have them squat down back to back and see who can hold it for the longest!

The team to hold it the longest wins!



WEEK 3 - TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE

- For this big group game, you'll need to break your kids up into groups of about 10.
- Each person gets a chance to tell everyone 3 things about themselves - Two of these things need to be true and 1 of them needs to be false.
- The aim is for the rest of the group to guess which is the lie.
- Make sure there is a leader in each group to facilitate everyone getting a chance.

WEEK 4 - MARSHMALLOW CHOP STICKS CHALLENGE

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Mini marshmallows
- Chopsticks (4 sets)
- Bowls (4)



- Select 2-4 volunteers for this game.
- Give them each a set of chopsticks and spread the mini marshmallows in front of them.
- The kid to get the most marshmallows in their bowl WINS!
- They can only use chopsticks to put the marshmallows in their bowls.

WEEK 5 - TEAM EATING CHALLENGE

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Baby food/yogurt/something messy
- Spoons

- Select a few volunteers to play and pair them up.
- Tell one person in each pair to stand behind their partner.
- The person in front needs to keep their hands at their sides and the person behind them will act as their arms and hands by reaching their arms through on either side of the person.
- The person behind will then hold the jar of baby food/yogurt and attempt to feed the person in front of them.
- The pair to finish their food the fastest and with the most food actually eaten, WINS!

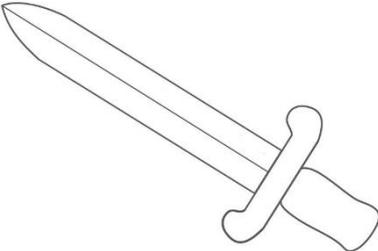
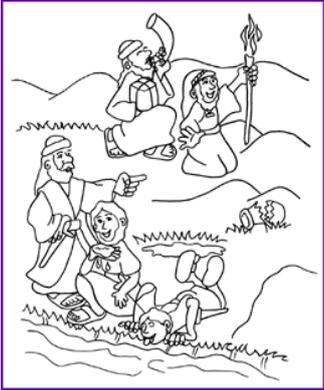
Week 1 - GIDEON (0-3)

Memory Verse: “Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” - Romans 12:2

Story: Gideon

Scripture: Judges 6-7

Bottom Line: Do everything in God’s strength.

Activity	Items Required
<p>MAKE A SWORD</p> <p>-Cut out the sword and cover the blade in tin foil.</p> <p>-Using permanent marker, write “Romans 12:2” to remind you of the memory verse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sword template on cardboard• Scissors• Tin foil• Permanent marker• Colouring in picture 
<p>COLOURING IN PICTURE</p> <p>-The younger kids can colour in the picture of Gideon and his army.</p>	

Talk About It

RECAP THE STORY:

- Gideon gathered some men to join him to fight the Midianites.
- God tells Gideon that he has too many soldiers.
- His 32,000 men decrease to 10,000.
- God tells Gideon that 10,000 are still too many.
- Gideon takes the men to the river to drink water.
- All those who knelt and drank were sent home.
- The 300 that stood and lapped water, from their hands, like a dog, were the ones that God used in the army.
- Gideon splits up his 300 men into 3 groups – 100 in each group.
- He arms them with torches, trumpets and an empty jar.
- What would YOU have thought going into battle with no weapons?
- Gideon breaks his jar & blows his trumpet & all the men do the same.
- The Midianites didn't know what happened and ran away in fear!
- Then they started fighting and killing each other.
- The battle was won by breaking jars, blowing trumpets and yelling!
Only God can do that!

LESSONS FROM GIDEON:

1. How many soldiers did Gideon start off with? 32,000
2. How many soldiers did God let Gideon use? 300
3. Why did God not want Gideon to have a lot of soldiers?
So that they wouldn't brag about the win. They had to know that God did it; not them.
4. Who fought for them? God.

ARE YOU A TRANSFORMER LIKE GIDEON???

What does it mean to be a transformer?

- We need to change the world! We need to find the lost so that they can be saved and be changed by Jesus.
- Are you telling those around you about Jesus?
- Who can you tell this week about Jesus and invite to church?

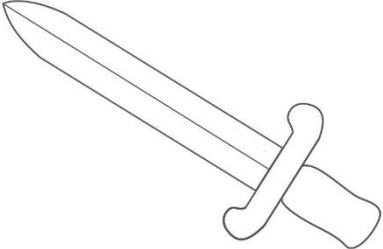
Week 1 - GIDEON (4-7)

Memory Verse: “Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” - Romans 12:2

Story: Gideon

Scripture: Judges 6-7

Bottom Line: Do everything in God’s strength.

Activity	Items Required
<p>GIRLS - SWORD CRAFT</p> <p>-Cut out the sword and decorate! -Write the memory verse on the back and let it remind you to be a transformer.</p> <p>BOYS - SWORD CRAFT</p> <p>-Cut out the sword and cover the blade in tin foil. -Using permanent marker, write “Romans 12:2” to remind you of the memory verse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sword Template• Decorating materials• Writing materials• Tin foil  

Talk About It

SOME BACKGROUND INFO...

Israel had a difficult time with the Midianites. The Midianites would come into Israel's land and wipe out all their food supply. They destroyed their livestock (cows and sheep), their crops (grains & wheat to make bread), and other possessions. For fear of the Midianites, the Israelites hid in caves. The Bible says, "they cried out to God and He heard their prayers." Once again, God moved to deliver the children of Israel. God called Gideon to lead a small army into battle.

GOD USED THE BATTLE TO TEACH THEM A LESSON:

WHY GIDEON?

-God often chooses to use the weak and less powerful so that His strength can be seen the most.

-Everyone would have known there was no way Gideon could win the battle by himself; he NEEDED God and so people knew that it was God who let them win the battle.

-Read 1 Corinthians 1:27-29

WHY ONLY 300 MEN?

-How would you feel going up against an army of thousands of men when you were in an army of only 300 men?

-Why did God only allow Gideon to take 300 men into battle? (God did not want Israel boasting that they had won the battle in their own strength. God wanted all the victory.)

-What did this show them? (God would always fight for them)

APPLICATION:

-What dreams do you have? What do you want to achieve? (Personal dreams, seeing someone saved, dreams to help others, etc.)

-Ever thought God can't use you because you're not good enough or not strong enough? Why?

-What can we learn from the story of Gideon? (Even when we feel weak, we can trust that He will always come through for us and make us victorious! He's the one who will fight for us if we let Him.)

-BUT... we MUST rely on Him! All glory MUST point to Him; not us.

-With this in mind, how does this change the way you see your dreams and goals that seem impossible now?

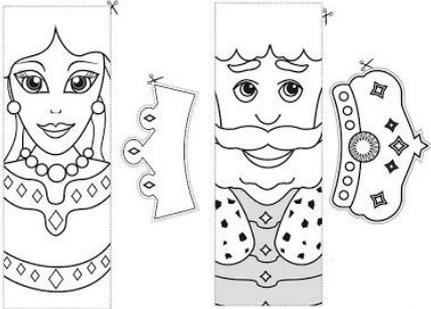
Week 2 - ESTHER (0-3)

Memory Verse: “Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” - Romans 12:2

Story: Esther

Scripture: Esther 1-10

Bottom Line: God can use us to bring change.

Activity	Items Required
<p>ESTHER & XERXES CRAFT</p> <p>-Allow kids to choose if they want Esther or Xerxes.</p> <p>-Colour in the picture and cut the person and their crown out.</p> <p>-Glue both parts onto the brown bag with the crown sticking over the top.</p> <p>-Make sure the opening of the bag is at the bottom.</p> <p>-Once completed, open up the bag, allowing to stand as seen in the picture alongside.</p> <p>COLOURING IN PICTURE</p> <p>-If the younger kids would prefer to colour in a picture, they can colour in a picture of Esther approaching King Xerxes to tell him what Haman was plotting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Esther and Xerxes Templates• Brown paper bags• Scissors and glue• Colouring materials   

Talk About It

OPENING DISCUSSION:

-Chat with the kids about a time they had to do something that required them to be really brave. Allow them to share their stories with the group. What was it that they had to do and how did they feel about it? Did they doubt themselves and want to give up at some point? How did they overcome their fears? It would be great if you opened with your own story of a time you had to be brave.

RECAP THE STORY:

1. Who was Esther?

- An ordinary Jewish girl who became queen.

2. Who did she marry?

- King Xerxes

3. What brave thing did Esther have to do?

- She had to go to the King and ask Him to save her people.

4. What would have happened if she didn't go to the King?

- All her people (the Israelites) would have been killed

LESSONS FROM ESTHER

1. She was brave.

-What made Esther brave? (She risked her life to save her people.)

-When have you done something brave for Jesus?

2. She put others first.

-Saving her people was more important than anything else.

-Do you put your feelings aside to tell your friends and family about Jesus?

(Maybe you're scared, or you don't know what to say... etc...)

-What sometimes stops you from telling people about Jesus?

3. She wasn't alone.

-Who was with Esther the entire time? (God)

-Do you believe that Jesus is with you all the time?

4. She was called for a specific time.

-Do you believe that God chose for you to be alive at this exact time because He has a special mission just for you?

-Look at the people around who - what do you think God is asking you to do?

Week 2 - ESTHER (4-7)

Memory Verse: “Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” - Romans 12:2

Story: Esther

Scripture: Esther 1-10

Bottom Line: God can use us to bring change.

Activity	Items Required
<p>GIRLS - SCEPTOR</p> <p>-For the ball, twist three pipe cleaners together at their centre's, then spread the loose ends apart. Bend them up to form the ball shape shown and twist the ends together at the top.</p> <p>-Fold two pipe cleaners around the base of the ball, then secure them against the length of the stick so the ball sits on top.</p> <p>-Glue a pom-pom to the centre of the ball.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Silver pipe Cleaners (5 per child)• Pom Pom• Sosati stick 
<p>BOYS - SCEPTOR</p> <p>-Scrunch up a ball of scrap paper just smaller than the size of your fist.</p> <p>-Stick your paper ball onto the stick (it will be very loose) and then use the tin foil to cover the paper ball and to secure it onto the stick as seen in the picture alongside.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sosati Stick• Tin Foil• Scrap paper 

Talk About It

OPENING DISCUSSION:

-Chat with the kids about a time they had to do something that required them to be really brave. Allow them to share their stories with the group. What was it that they had to do and how did they feel about it? Did they doubt themselves and want to give up at some point? How did they overcome their fears? It would be great if you opened with your own story of a time you had to be brave.

RECAP THE STORY:

1. What was Esther before she became queen?

- She was an ordinary Jewish girl

2. How did she become Queen?

- She won a beauty pageant and married King Xerxes.

3. What was the brave thing Esther had to do?

- She had to go to the King and ask him to save her people

4. Why was it so risky to go to the King?

- A person could be killed if they went to the King without an invitation.

5. What was the result of Esther's bravery?

- The entire Israelite nation was saved!

LESSONS FROM ESTHER

1. She was brave.

-What made Esther brave? (She risked her life to save her people.)

-When have you done something brave for Jesus?

2. She was SELFLESS!

-What does it mean to be selfless? (To put others first)

-How was Esther selfless? (She put the needs of her people above her fears.)

3. She knew WHOSE she was!

-Why was Esther able to be brave? (She knew God was with her)

-In what areas do you need to trust God and be brave?

-What do you think can sometimes hold us back from what God asks us to do?

-Pray and ask God to give you the strength to be obedient!

Week 3 - ELIJAH (0-3)

Memory Verse: "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind." - Romans 12:2

Story: Elijah

Scripture: 1 Kings 18

Bottom Line: We need to have confidence in Jesus to be a transformer.

Activity	Items Required
<p>OBJECT LESSON</p> <p>-Build an altar with the sweets and pretzels while recapping the story.</p> <p>-You can put your kids in two's or threes to build the altar and have them see who can recap most of the story correctly.</p> <p>COLOUR IN THE PICTURE</p> <p>-Colour in the picture and add bits of red, yellow and orange paper to the fire.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marshmallows• Pretzels• Jelly babies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Picture• Colouring materials• Red, yellow & orange paper 

Talk About It

OPENING DISCUSSION:

Chat with your group about a time they may have felt like they were all alone and everyone was against them. Maybe they were standing up for being a Christian and for what was right, and they were the only one. Did they find it difficult or easy?

Open with a story of your own where maybe you felt as though everyone was against you when you were standing up for what was right. Tell them that today's story was about a man who was probably feeling the same way, but we see how his trust in God gave him the strength to stand firm and ultimately be a transformer.

RECAP THE STORY (1 Kings 18:17-40)

1. Elijah challenged the priests of Baal to a contest to see whose God could set fire to their sacrifice (a bull).
2. Even after the Baal worshippers hurt themselves to get Baal's attention, nothing happened.
3. Elijah prepared his bull and poured water on it three times which would make it difficult to set fire to.
4. Elijah called on God once and the Lord sent fire which not only burnt the wet offering, but also all the wood, the stones and the dirt under the alter!
5. The people then believed that Elijah's God was the one true God.

SERVING 2 GODS OBJECT LESSON:

Have your group stand in a line in front of you. Tell them they must go in whatever direction you tell them. Call out left, right, right, left, left right; going faster and faster until they can't keep up.

Have them sit down after doing this for a minute or so and discuss:

-Can you walk in two directions at the same time? No.

-Worshipping two gods is like trying to walk in two directions at the same time. It's impossible.

-He told the people that they had to choose to worship God and ONLY God; not Baal.

-Who can you transform? Who do you know that doesn't love Jesus?

-Where do you need to stand up for what you believe in?

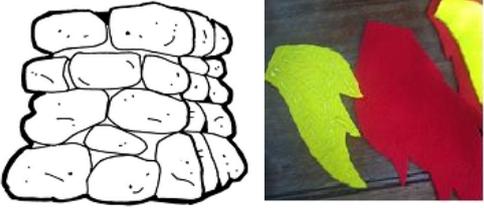
Week 3 - ELIJAH (4-7)

Memory Verse: "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind." - Romans 12:2

Story: Elijah

Scripture: 1 Kings 18

Bottom Line: We need to have confidence in Jesus to be a transformer.

Activity	Items Required
<p>OBJECT LESSON</p> <p>-Build an altar with the sweets and pretzels while recapping the story.</p> <p>-You can put your kids in two's or threes to build the altar and have them see who can recap most of the story correctly.</p> <p>ALTAR CRAFT</p> <p>-Colour in the alter and cut out flames from the fabric to glue on the picture.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marshmallows• Pretzels• Jelly babies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Altar picture• Colouring materials• Fabric (Red, orange, yellow)• Scissors• Glue 

Talk About It

OPENING DISCUSSION:

Chat with your group about a time they may have felt like they were all alone and everyone was against them. Maybe they were standing up for being a Christian and for what was right, and they were the only one. Did they find it difficult or easy?

Open with a story of your own where you felt as though everyone was against you when you were standing up for what was right. Tell them that today's story was about a man who was probably feeling the same way, but we see how his trust in God gave him the strength to stand firm and ultimately be a transformer.

RECAP THE STORY (1 Kings 18:17-40)

-Ask your group what stood out to them in the story and why?

-Choose someone in your group to read 1 Kings 18:17-40

SERVING 2 GODS OBJECT LESSON:

Have your group stand in a line in front of you. Tell them they must go in whatever direction you tell them. Call out left, right, right, left, left right; going faster and faster until they can't keep up.

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-He told the people that they had to choose to worship God and ONLY God; not Baal.

-Who can you transform? Who do you know that doesn't love Jesus?

-Where do you need to stand up for what you believe in?

LESSON FROM ELIJAH:

1. HE HAD GUTS!

-He stood up against 450 men and was confident because he knew the God he served.

-What fears are stopping you from being bold? Are you worried what people will think of you?

-Do you trust that God has your back? If not, why?

-Chat about how you're going to live a life confident in Jesus so that you can be a transformer.

Week 4 - WOMAN AT THE WELL (0-3)

Memory Verse: "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind." - Romans 12:2

Story: The woman at the well

Scripture: John 4

Bottom Line: We need to carry the urgency of the Gospel in our hearts.

Activity	Items Required
<p>THE WOMAN AT THE WELL CRAFT</p> <p>-Give each child a polystyrene cup and have them colour in the inside of the cup blue to represent water.</p> <p>-Using some thin plastic string, poke holes in opposite sides of the cup to create a handle as seen in the picture alongside.</p> <p>-Have them write "I am a transformer" on the front of the cup. You may need to help the younger kids or encourage them to draw a picture that represents that instead.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Polystyrene Cup• Blue crayon• Plastic string• Permanent Marker 

Talk About It

OPENING DISCUSSION:

Chat with your group about a time they got to share the Gospel with a friend or family member. Allow them to share their personal stories about how it felt before sharing it and how they felt afterwards. Were they nervous? Excited? Share a story of your own about when you got to share the Gospel with someone. You want to emphasize the point that sharing the Gospel is really exciting and it's something we should do as often as we can.

RECAP THE STORY:

1. Where did Jesus stop to rest? (At a well)
2. Was Jesus by himself at the well? (yes)
3. Who came to the well? (A Samaritan woman)
4. What did Jesus ask the Samaritan woman for? (Something to drink)
5. Why was she surprised that Jesus spoke to her? (He was a Jew and she was a Samaritan and Jews and Samaritans did not get on.)
6. What did Jesus know about the Samaritan woman? (He knew about her previous husbands and that the man she was living with was not her husband)
7. Who did Jesus say he was? (He told he was the living water)
8. What did the woman do when she found out Jesus was the Messiah? (She told everyone in the city about Jesus).
9. What happened to everyone in the city? (They got saved!)

LESSONS FROM THE WOMAN AT THE WELL:

1. SHE DIDN'T WASTE ANY TIME

-As soon as she heard the good news about who Jesus was, she ran into the city straight away to tell everyone.

-What can we learn from her?

2. SHE WAS EXCITED

-She didn't care what anyone thought about her, she ran around telling everyone who would listen.

-Are we that excited about Jesus? Are we bursting to tell people about Jesus wherever and whenever we can? If you're not, pray that God would put that excitement in your heart so that you too can be a transformer.

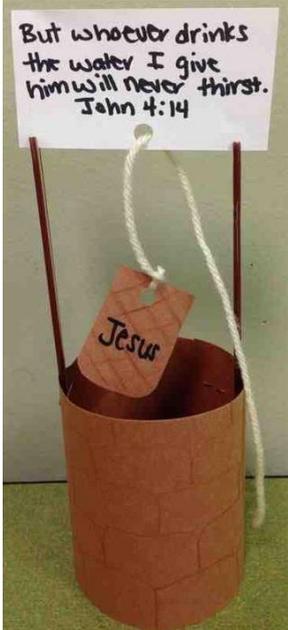
Week 4 - WOMAN AT THE WELL (4-7)

Memory Verse: "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind." - Romans 12:2

Story: The woman at the well

Scripture: John 4

Bottom Line: We need to carry the urgency of the Gospel in our hearts.

Activity	Items Required
<p>THE WOMAN AT THE WELL CRAFT</p> <p>-Give each child a toilet roll/piece of brown cardboard to make the base of their well.</p> <p>-Next stick two sosati sticks on opposite ends of the roll and secure these with sticky tape.</p> <p>-On a white piece of paper write the scripture found in John4:14 "But whoever drinks the water I give, will never thirst again".</p> <p>-Stick this piece of paper to the top of the two sosati sticks.</p> <p>-Finally, on a small square piece of paper, write the name Jesus, tie a piece of wool to it, and thread it through a hole you will need to punch on your scripture.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Toilet roll/Brown paper• Sosati sticks (2 per child)• White paper• Wool• Writing materials• Scissors & Glue 

Talk About It

OPENING DISCUSSION:

Chat with your group about a time they got to share the Gospel with a friend or family member. Allow them to share their personal stories about how it felt before sharing it and how they felt afterwards. Were they nervous? Excited?

Share a story of your own about when you got to share the Gospel with someone. You want to emphasize the point that sharing the Gospel is really exciting and it's something we should do as often as we can.

RECAP THE STORY:

-Ask your group what they can remember from the story and what stood out to them.

-Choose someone/or a few kids to read John 4:1-26

-Why was the woman at the well a transformer? (She transformed an entire city.)

THE BEST KEPT SECRET!

-Has anyone here ever been told a secret before?

-What's the most important thing about a secret? (You can't share it)

-**BUT...** in this story, **NO-ONE** kept anything a secret...

1. JESUS SHARED HIS IDENTITY

-Most people stopping at a well to get something to drink would have probably been too tired to talk to anyone, but Jesus never missed an opportunity to share the gift of salvation.

-How did Jesus transform the woman's life? (He gave her the answer to eternal life.)

2. THE WOMAN SHARED THE NEWS WITH THE CITY

-As soon as the woman realized the man at the well was the Messiah, she ran and told everyone. She understood how much this meant.

-What have you let get in the way of sharing Jesus with people?

-How many people have we passed by and we know they're not saved?

3. DON'T KEEP QUIET

-We have the answer to spending eternity with Jesus!

-Pray and ask God to put an excitement in your heart to share the Good News about Jesus!

Week 5 - JOCHEBED (0-3)

Memory Verse: “Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” - Romans 12:2

Story: Jochebed

Scripture: Exodus 2:1-10

Bottom Line: We need to help others to become transformers.

Activity	Items Required
<p>GIRLS - MOSES BASKET</p> <p>-Give each girl the template of Moses and the basket. -Colour in and cut out. -Punch holes along the edges and weave wool (or pieces of long grass) through the holes.</p> <p>BOYS - FLOATING MOSES</p> <p>-See who can make a “basket” that can hold the most weight. -Give them each some tin foil to construct their basket. -Place all of the baskets in a bucket of water and begin adding marbles to each. -See whose basket can hold the most marbles before sinking. -Chat about the fact that if there are people around us who are sinking, they are not going to be able to be transformers. We need to share the Gospel with them so that they too can become transformers one day!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moses basket template • Punch • Wool/long pieces of grass • Scissors & Glue • Colouring materials <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tin foil • Marbles • Bucket of water 

Talk About It

OPENING DISCUSSION:

Ask your group if they have ever seen someone really change after giving their lives to Jesus? Ask them to share what was different and ask them whether they had a part to play in it? Maybe they told a friend or family about Jesus or even just invited them to church and they saw a big change in their lives.

Share a story of your own about someone's life you've seen change after coming to know Jesus.

RECAP THE STORY

- What was Moses' Mother's name? (Jochebed)
- Why did she hide Moses in the bulrushes in the Nile River? (Pharaoh had made a law that all Hebrew boys were to be killed)
- Who found Moses in the bulrushes? (Pharaoh's daughter)
- What did she do with baby Moses? (She adopted him)
- Who raised him when he was still a baby? (His actual mother)
- Did Pharaoh's daughter know that Jochebed was actually Moses' mother? (No)
- What did Moses go on to do when he grew up? (He saved the Israelites from slavery in Egypt)

LESSONS FROM JOCHEBED:

1. FAITH

- Do you think leaving Moses in the river was easy?
- Do you think she knew what would happen after she left him there?
- What gave her the strength to do it? (She trusted God)
- Do you trust God even when you're unsure about what might happen when you step out and do something brave for Him?

2. SHE CHANGED HISTORY

- Was Jochebed the one who freed the Israelites out of slavery? (No)
- How do you think she was a transformer then? (She was a part of Moses' story. Because of her faith, Moses went on to do great things)
- How can we be a part of someone else's story in becoming a transformer? (Share the gospel, encourage people, pray for them, help them in practical ways, lead by example)
- Chat with your group about how they're going to help those around them become transformers too.

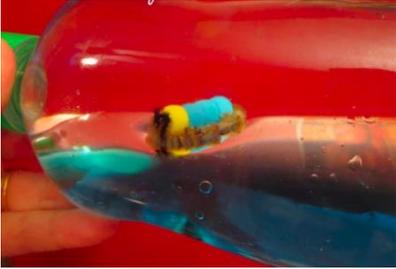
Week 5 - JOCHEBED (4-7)

Memory Verse: "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind." - Romans 12:2

Story: Jochebed

Scripture: Exodus 2:1-10

Bottom Line: We need to help others to become transformers

Activity	Items Required
<p>BABY MOSES</p> <p>-To make your baby Moses, glue three beads together and draw a face on the top one.</p> <p>-Then you bend a brown pipe cleaner around in an oval shape and glue the baby on top.</p> <p>-Fill your bottle about half with water, then put in one drop of blue food colouring.</p> <p>-Drop in the baby, fill the rest of the way with oil, and secure the lid.</p> <p>-And there you have your very own Moses in the bulrushes!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A small clear bottle• Water• Oil• Blue food colouring• Beads (to make Moses)• Brown pipe cleaners• Craft Glue  

Talk About It

OPENING DISCUSSION:

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LESSONS FROM JOCHEBED:

1. HER FAITH WAS BIGGER THAN HER FEAR

- Do you think it would have been easy for her to leave her son in the bulrushes?
- How do you think she was able to do it? (She knew it was the only way she could keep him alive. She trusted that God would take care of him.)

2. THROUGH JOCHEBED, HISTORY WAS MADE

- Remember, Moses saved the Israelites out of slavery when he grew up.
- What would have happened if Jochebed chose to keep Moses and risk him being killed?
- Jochebed was part of Moses' story of becoming a transformer. Are you helping others to become transformers?
- How can we do this? (Share the gospel, encourage people, pray for them, help them in practical ways, lead by example)
- Chat with your group about how they're going to help those around them become transformers too.